Inaugural Difurtation Tunar Influence Submitted to the asamination of the Sustees and Medical Tropogsous, University of Transylvania, on the day of Freit, 1808. The Degree of Doctor of Medicine? By John H. Davis

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Inauguna Dijurtution on R. S.c.

In all suintific pursuits we should be watermy roution how we admit those things which partake of the Marvellows, and in no subject whatever should we be more quantest a gound this thoun on Medicines " The suince of Medicine ways an excellent conter ought to be held as fra of Micaeles and populle." No superstitions theories as regards the rouse and noture of discused - no preporterous remoties sug gasted by the whimsial de woman, or, her haspes, while more funciful physician, should ever gain admittance into this Swine art" Induct, when Suffert on the sugers, the new and improved affect, which medicine has apsumed within a century post, sums to be mon owing to a spirit of skipthism which how arisen and an arisen for ransaving the theores wal opinion of presenting writers, un fettered by the hamels of groundlife forgusties, than to the mount new discoveries which have been much. By ridding it of the immerase) maps of rustain by which it was winger the sely sumounded for so many upas, it appears in quite a new form, and shines with its proper listed. Short weil of obscurity which so long shrowted this

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Bleford simu from the eyes of the rommon prople wind sonfined its important butter to the temples and the priests, is at length happily removed. Jas, Irepeat it, this magnum Sw Donum, as formerly considered by the onlyar, those indoistered arrand, which were so long losked up in the hallowed Jame, have slipped from Their saired wells and readily unfold their mysteries at the just demound of the most moderate sufficients. The abolition of that monstrous provolice of Just tishing medical works in a language unintelligable and obsolete contributes not a little also, to our facility of arguing a knowledge of this useful art. the ex ullent principles which how lattly been establish ed and proven to be correct by experience prestudex the poporbility of its enemies ever in future stig made tising it with the unmerited epithils of uncertains dend factorious and as in a game of hazard worp thing doubtful . That it may still be said to be in a mouse unustoin and fallinous this we would by no mound pretent to design in fact unfor = Junately for the human race it is too true nos to be admitted: but may not the same thing be said

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Of every thing else. Who would renounce the Sience navigation and abandon all the advantages resprinter, is sulling from a commercial intersource with the this may in different nations of the earth, because nowing actors have sometimes been descived by ingular paria tions of the medle" why then underne the sein of Medium or arrive it of uncertainty in our unlimited sense because we are not always able to determine the went of a discover or invariable foretell the effects which will result from the restriction we employ, But while I am their interging on him med the entire litered start of Medical knowledge the for de resolute . lowing question seems whishered in my ear; How playsinans then romplely freed themselves from every thing like prepaperion in Javan of every Gunion and are viet things alone admitted as truthes as are proven to be so from correct observacio on and experience: happy would I be were Just to amswer this question in the affirmative: but bruth forbids it. Wought we live in the 18th bentry pryudices superstitions projudices I je still prevail among us. I shall not in this im proper place tack upon me the tack of pointing

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This ut any time would be laborities und un pleasure I shall however mention a few which ought to be admitted by all who seriously reflect on the week just. The first I should take notice of is the belief in the contragious nexture of bilions epidemice and the efferacy of quarantine stublishments in preventing their propagation from bounty to country. Do the injunious and justing admired professor Twesh very while observes in his Lettures The practice of nailing house shows over a the door of a dwelling house in order to avert the from er of withher is not more truly reducations than those capenous monuments of human folly nutred in our ports. The very name inclinates from what some this langest practice origina had. To point out clearly that there is a ractical error in the very principle whon which they are founded would be no Herneleun undertalking. but it how been abready done, I whould sufferen to the natisfaction of every man of sense! How strictly too do the physicians of the present day adhen to the det Hipporate dortrin of in trial days which have no better foundation and in best so

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Suntan Originaled in a preposterous notion of the power of number shall horse What a famiful opinion has futher Jacob also handmitted to his distant sone respecting the in 1. 160 fluence of the moon on the foctus in where: And Jours took him roots of green hoplan, and sees illi the housel and whee nut tru; and fulled white not the stouches in them, and made the white appear porce m which was in the roods, and he set the roots which country he had fulled before the flocks in the gutters, in upper Ju the watering broughs, when the flocks same to In process drink; that they should comein when they ingad sume to drink, And the flocks conceived before 1 wite to the roces, and brought forthe routtle ring strake WH wason and wheekled and whotted. and Just die when ess popu on on men roth the lambs, and set the feres of the barne ver and toward the ring-straked, and all the brown in the flock of Labour: and he but his own in in the florks by themselves; and but them not maked co at it how unto Laburis will." Here probably is near by the source of that mistaken belief which In street tall within a few years so generally prevailed among physusans as well as the very are. Muy h Lu Gen. 6. XXX 1. 37.8.9 & 40th.

900 004 010 NO welled before the flerhar M in well ound brought forth north 190 rig and whichled and whether and field die a Su who the lambs and set the files of the borns bound the uni- Southed and all the lover does and put Them no unte Lubrerio well. Here probably in which a few from so generates fore with meny phy unway as well so the very no

ficeb! faceb! hads then bun as well arguinde with anatomy and physiology we with the duties required of the by they God thou wouldn't never. given an argument from Holy torit in support so great an error; which impounts on the under dies of a beloved offsprings the image of a rat a a load or a furth entwines them with hipring snockes ilothes their little frames with a Lels of various hues or cometimes O mirabile! ushes them into the world with ampulated limbs provides rd bones or destatute of a heard. Many other opinion one equally followious with those mentioned and equally resulting from prejudice and want of reflection might be pointed out but as I did not contemplet doing it from the beginning I should tent myself with mentioning one other which I intend shall be the subject of my particular an imudversion in the remaining sheets. I allude to the influence of the moon whon the humain tun and terrestrial bodies in general which the nion is no so generally received among us That the moon does exert some and a pretty son

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suderable influence when our globe by means of the light (and hart prabably) which she derives from the sun and transmits from herself to us no one ever pretended to deny and this would be a price of sheptiism which shall not organist with me I only mean to contend that it exerts no our no inexplicable influence exclusively of these. I am well aware that in this chinion I shall be somewhat singular includ much more so their I would wish to be on such an oranion as the present: but triath is my sole object and Its nothing will ever be able to prevent me from free sucing her, The doctrine I have now oppose I well know wants neither antiquity nor the weight of modern authority for its support but both an insufficient to wester an entity out of thing or shange an error into which. Is I said before the dortrine of Lunar influence weents not antiquity for its support among the Helevers Ha moon was always romvidend as an object woo they of prime regard. By the Hebrews she seemed to be much more an object of revenemen thank Sun and was much more generally worshiped as

und 1 vore 7 Jum 2000 an will sweet that in this diencon I whall to 6 CW. which to be mount on ourerion on the 01/ full nothing will ever be able to prevent 00 701 webs to h the an insufferient to make an inteles out age Jh ai h blood the doctrine of burner in and wantes not entionity for it's support among the Jodenia and to mean were always considered as an object win 027 the it him recent. By the Hebrers who second nes to be much more our object of live need were much more work

as a dely. The new moon was always welcomed with the Sound of trumpets intertainments and sawife Whate was given to the artions of men on those day and they were would shent in the greatest festibity and mirth. The feasts of new moons word a ministure representation of the focust toumputs, which wow held on the fried of the month Tiri (corresponding to our Sefet ") which was the sommenument of the rivie year, The Juwens seem to have comsidered the as particularly favorable to marriages; and the full moons or the times of conjunction of the hun and moon, were held the most lucky secsons for reletrating them, because they imagined the most to holve great influence over generation. The Spartum always looked whom the quelimon as hartinlarly favorable for any undertaking bis more explically for those which related to war; and no motives would induce them to enter who an expedition, much un army or attach un enemy till the full of the Moon. the moon wow supposed by the Gueke and Romans

19 in 1/1 meor 13.11 worth Jim corresponding afforde minu ture barbierlaste feverable to marriages; and the the or bull moons or the trines of orner and moon were held the most lucky success for time there immained veil notice great influence 4 1 The Sparting olding potent whom the speak me but. so huntinetously favorable for very under but ung fran more as previally for those win who retorted to and no molevie weeks underes them to in expectation, much un unny or altert dies. none till the field of the Mago and The moon was or lepion by the Justice und Thomas

to preside over while birth hence she was so freque ly invoked during times of labor under the norm of Lunion. In all ages too her the power of the moon ever the weather been believed to be comerderable But the writers who treet of the signe of the week the as taken from the moon, derive their proge this from incums turned which neither argue any weed influence of the moon ew a receive men affords any foundation for such a belief; but are mently indivations of the state of the oir at the time of observation; such are the shocke of the hours the degree and roles of the light, and the number and quality of the himmour halos which so times surround her. Teshelps I should confine in vely more particularly to its effects, or, more peropo by sheating, supposed effects on the human bod but the hides of the outen have been so frequently fromted ow or mornifest proof of the moone action on terrestrict things that I trust I shall be allow tho' it may be in some measure inelective to dium to tring forwards a few arguments which and relintarted to show that even this theory is entirely unfounded in receson and fact. It is much to be regretted that men one so aft to ascribe

pordule over shild butte hime invoked during times of labor under the source former , for ill regardes ! The power of the 14000 mente » lune di thouse appe in t ion: south are the shape of the hoin place 17.100-20 the ! the 1 the 8 speaking supposed flette on the agan Son pointed as or moun fest proof of his socre remotinist things that I trust I um to thing forwards a few in uments Byz willand to show that even this theory in wholey unfounded in new you work fait. If it with to be mouthed that men one so with to surice + 11

Effects to some concomitant incumstances which frofte bly may be only anidental or have nothing to do in the for durtion of them. Thus bile how been supported to be the round of what have been turned Bilious Epidemies a wurse it is aundentally vomited up from the stomach. and the esculent and wholesome root the potorioe was amused of producing the sickness shortly following its introduction into Europe nor is there any force that the moon produces the tides vave that high water appeared in some places about the time the moon is in the meteodicin of that place I vary only in some places for it is by no means uniformly the recese. If the Victorian theory nestering the tides of the oren were well founded I whould be glad to know when the lides under the operator are not higher than at the hole which one so much further removed from wishood the pretended influence of that nothernal luminus again why the wwent of the tides is directly lowand instead of from the equator on they should be were the opinion of Lis Isave well grounded .. That this is not the west is proven from the obser vartions of Ellis, Sinshotten, Barents, book, Madens Byron, barteret and others, again if they be owing to the power of the moon why are the tides during , 4 M. comments very Shutenen theor but it was setwered long prior to the time of soft who beat philosopher.

them, There is how been suppored to be the untille no ited who from the stamach. 14/02 six your of head wine the without a hootly followers nie in moon traduces the lides wave that Medic whoo 6000 is but is be no morn uniformly the week. men mose was wire well founded I whereig to dark to know when not to hold which are so write feather remont has the win wher the warrest of the tides in directly how info. instead of some the country no their aloned tron tumon of Simborar well abounded .. the so ounce

Summer so much higher than they are in the South de when the moon proposes then over into the southern them phere which is also proven by the auounts given in by many navigators. My too are there no lides in our lacker the incompenence of lacke superior is uperand viction hundred miles and yet there is no perceptible vising or fulling of its weeters they too none in the Medeteranian, boospian and Balti seas the first upwards of three thousand miles in length and near two thousand five hundred in breadth get the moon enen when in the kenith of this voist body of weller produces no appearance of a tide. Moreous why is not the barometer affected equal to a rolumn of war with to of 10, 20, 30,50 or an hundred feet in height. the baronictes if any is ad any time buy little influenced. The I might offer many other object tions to the commonly received openion respections the rouse of tides I shall omit doing it in this plan and refer the reader to the excellent and ingenious work of De Saint Trene which should be inevery mirat belians and perused at least one a year as Le Dambier, Book Sk.

as also proven by the accounts dow hum low dulp in mon 10000 the hours 01 11 of ble 10/0 1 who of he Swint Steen which should be increase

well for our own improvements on sucretific subjects a to touch us our humble and dependant condition and the mercy of god. If then this strong hold be reversed from the hais of the upholders of this enoncous doctrine what what dow of proof run they have of its influence on the human body either in health or discourse. Mand Moul four and others have written particularly on the julgest and are supported by facts to be metions in Durwin Morely Jackson L.S. as to D' Meads heatise the friquenter whoken of an containing most positive it is in my humble opinion not worth residing and nother how a tendency to prove the contrary of what he intended by showing how have been the attempts of so injenious and learne moin. As to Chilepay heriodrice hemonthagie of blood marrious relatives of fever menutrustion and unt like they and ourning every day and act all her eds of the moon. Who how not known if he have ever un in waterwive martin, children seen every day two days four days L. L. without regard to the moon.

touch in our humber and defoundant wer the esteration at his execution 1/2 ano 41/0 ther s w was days ale wothout your to the moon.

Mentenation is going on every days may every here in the day and is squally independent of her even the women themselves, who are we found of second ing effect the this body never attribute their period in flux to this traver.

Let what numerous and different periods to patient periods to patient relapse into a state of demanament seme of them must unacontable happen on himse period attentions. I should at once renownce my spinein and whop the doctome of Junes influence. I show withinky believe the moon propeled of the house of according to presenting their attack at writing per presenting their attack at writing to the second of the period attack at writing to the second of the period of the

Host when we consisted the subject how much in our opporants take but how little showe do they five was of disposing their theory. They contend the fur moon wests his influence at the sykyges and give matures, and for three days before and three days in with of these sports. There are decents four days therefore in such symptom month over which at their with is supposed to preside; and as the whele consists is supposed to preside; and as the whele consists

one in the day and a roundly independent of un the comes themselves who we wo fond of ou 4 00 At what minerous and different ather allo therey herees and for three days before and three days as to and of these forther There were live Wor in couls synothic month, our which at will Jesha, is very proud to prairie; went in the whole comits

but of hoursy mine days twelve hours and there! fourths, only five and a half days are executed from her protonded dominion. Hence though discon as should have no connection with the different ho sitions of the moon and the they be distributed an equal proportion through the whole synoche month yet any one who shall product that are attack or relative or any sharper will haplan or my one of the twenty four days afrigued, nother than in any of the remaining five and a half will ale vays have the chances twenty four to five and bull in his forow. Dut I peneive the narrow lime which I have apsigned to my difsertation will not allow me to deadl longer on the suspent of it I show therefore put a unclusion to my imperfect especies Pas to its imperpertion no person wan be more son onour of them then myself In the eyes of no seed will there sheets appear untempleted theory own some which we had not betily indesposition prevented I migat

4000 Burt Arren trolese to dead lines on the subject Vabo resport fred at underson to my impressed aports one of them their myself in the eyes of no seen It these shield whiteen contemplied the con non who had not betile interportion presented I mage to

howe sendend it more worthy the medical school of which it is a production. Before combuding a much beg the several profession of the university to aucht his all I have to offer, my sinusest my most gradeful thanks for the instruction I have received from them in their professional raparities. Hot being personally arguainted with any on of them (save the benevolent sound and horpita se Barton, I am indebted but for few outs of previous friendship, conforms. O kind and beneficent his Let rouses through life from which we do not read more or less vidvantage. Had this not been the race history I should at present have labored under made my obligations which I never work have frees me ely from astern? Offenfunity attend all youth are

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on brokenst at more wording the leverinette arriene I am indelled but for few with it to verice wie hoongs life from which we do not read vow or less uneventual. Has this not been the west whater I should at known have above under man v obligactions which I never week busin from Adies. Proposite attend all yours Will offer lo. hims.